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Agenda items 14, 19 (a), 21 (a) and 22 (b)

Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields

Sustainable development: implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development and of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Globalization and interdependence: role of the United Nations in promoting development in the context of globalization and interdependence

Groups of countries in special situations: follow-up to the second United Nations Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries

Letter dated 7 June 2018 from the Permanent Representatives of Azerbaijan, Georgia and Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to inform you of an event of historic significance — the inauguration of the first section of the southern gas corridor, which will feed Turkey and Europe with Caspian gas resources from the Shah Deniz-2 field.

The foundation of the southern gas corridor was laid on 20 September 2014. As one of the biggest projects in the world with an investment volume of around $40 billion, the 3,500-km-long southern gas corridor includes the development of the Shah Deniz-2 oil field, the South Caucasus pipeline through Georgia, the trans-Anatolian pipeline through Turkey and the trans-Adriatic pipeline. The southern gas corridor will contribute to addressing energy security issues. Issues related to energy security are very high on the global agenda today, and national security issues depend to a large extent on energy security.

It goes without saying that the support of all our partners has been vital for the realization of this project. Today, we are at the dawn of a new era where we witness world-scale oil and gas projects in the region carried out within the framework of

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broad international cooperation. This project will serve to further deepen cooperation in Europe and in our region not only in energy but also in all other sectors. Seven countries — Albania, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Greece, Italy and Turkey — are involved in the implementation of the southern gas corridor.

The southern gas corridor is characterized as one of the major projects of our century and as synonymous with the enhancement of cooperation for the future prosperity and economic and social well-being of the countries and peoples of the region. The pipeline will contribute to the diversification of global energy supply, make its contribution towards meeting the world's rising energy demands and complement global efforts aimed at achieving the relevant Sustainable Development Goals. The goals and objectives of the southern gas corridor are not confined to the expansion of energy introduction capacity and new energy transport infrastructure, but also relate to collaboration among countries and peoples aimed at promoting peace, stability, development and mutual prosperity.

We should be grateful if you would have the present letter distributed as a document of the seventy-second session of the General Assembly, under agenda items 14, 19 (a), 21 (a) and 22 (b).

(*Signed*) Yashar **Aliyev**
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Permanent Representative of the Republic of Azerbaijan
to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Kaha **Imnadze**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Georgia to the United Nations

(*Signed*) Feridun H. **Sinirlioğlu**
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